¶ A moſt ſtrange and rare example of the iuſt iudgement of God executed vpon a lewde and wicked Coniurer the .xvij. day of Ianuarie. M. D. Lxxvij. In the parith church of S. Mary Oueris in Southwark, in the preſence of diuers credible & honeſt perſons.

¶ Imprinted at London, by Henrie Bennyman.

Roberti Have

Remember mortal man how time doth passe,
and know likewise, al humain flesh is grasse:
For time at length cõsumes the strõgest oke,
So death at last must strike the grenous stroke:
Though lustie youth do pleasant beautie beare
Yet youth to age in tract of time doth weare.
The pleasant flour that beares the freshest hue
The grasse that grows so grene in sõmer tide
The pinching colde hir colour dothe subdue,
So that hir beautie cannot long abide:
Euen so the state of mortall man depends,
Whose life to these may well compared be,
To daye the powers aboue our life defends:
To morrowe deade full oft times we see.
Therfore still liue as though thou shuldest dye,
Thy soule to saue from sodeate iopardye.
If mortall man would be wrigh his state aright,
And shun the subtill snares of false delight,
Esteeming them to be so fraile and vaine,
As nothing else maye sooner bring our paine:
He woulde (no doubt) his course direct aright,
And haue those shewes no longer in his sight.
And though our nature be so weake and frayle,
As any one attempt may more auayle,
No doubt but if with zeale we call for grace,
We shall eschew suche ieopardes attempts apace.
The sygnes and theades that dayly doe appeere,
In coastes abroade, and in our countrie here,
May well a warnyng be vnto vs all,
To shun the synne that we be charged withall,
Let vs example take of holy writ,
Wherein ech christen man shuld ground his wit,
Howe God (for synne) in his displeased yre,
Consumed Sodome and Gomorre with fyre.

In

In theſe our dayes it may be eke regarded,
How dyuers countreys for ſinne are rewarded.
Kerbys therefore by them example take,
And from our ſinnes at length let vs awake,
Which God of his mercy graunt forto be,
That we in ioyes euerlaſting may ſee
The heuenly ſhew of his moſte glorious face,
Pronouncing ioyes to them that cal for grace,

AMEN.

S the Synnes of Man are innumerable and dyuerſe, gentle Reader, ſo the plagues & puniſhmentes of God are ſundrye: and he ſharpely ſcourgeth manye, that wee the reſydue myghte the better bee warned. And though he ſuffer and beare with our wicked deedes and dealings a while, yet without amendement, and oure repentaunce, hee will ſtryke at laſte, with ſo heauie and greuous a ſtroke that our fraile bodyes may not nor cãnot ſuſtayn his heauy hande. Let therefore euery true Chriſtian enter into his owne heart, & conſyder how mercyfull God is, how he warneth vs, howe he ſpareth vs, and gyueth daily examples for our amendement, how he plageth the offẽdor, thoughe mercifull to a great ſorte of ſinners.

If we wolde consyder this transi-
torie worlde how tickle it standeth,
howe vncertayne the lyfe of man is,
howe we can assure vnto our selues
nothyng certayne but death, howe
our toyles, our labours, oure cares,
our inuentions, oure policies and
subtilties passe with our mortall bo-
dies: vndoubtedly the verie horrour
of our consciences, woulde cause vs
to bee more carefull to refrayne oure
naturall bodies from such filthy, de-
testable and abhominable liuing, as
they are most prone and ready to fo-
lowe and imbrace: yea it woulde so
moue our myndes to deuotion, that
therby the vayn industries, lewd at-
temptes, and wycked imaginations
of our hearte myght be altered and
chaunged to true Religion, to con-
stauntnesse of Faith, and to true and
syncere dealyng one with an other.
Let vs therfore searche and examine

our

our selues, and lyke the loste sonne come home & crie Abba father, and then vndoubtedly, with spreaded armes, hee will bee ready to receiue vs to his great mercye, whereas on the contrarie hee will shewe hymselfe a fierce and terrible god, pronouncing a most sharpe iudgement vppon the offendor, yea he wil steale vpon him on a day whē he loketh not for him, and in an houre that he is not ware of, and shall hewe him in peeces, and giue him his portion with the hipocrites, where there shall be weepyng and gnashing of teethe. After which sorte, God in his iustice, stroke the persone of whom we nowe speake: who maye well bee a myrrour and spectacle to vs all, that we knowing and seeyng the ende of hys wycked life, may renewe the olde man graffed in our harts, glorifying our heauenly Father whiche is in Heauen,

whiche God graunte of his mercye. Amen.

The seuenteenth daye of Januarie this presente yeare of our Lorde God a thousand fiue hundred seuentie and fiue, one Simon Pembroke dwelling in Saincte Georges parish in Southwarke, beyng cõuented before the ordinarie iudge of that place as vehemẽtly suspected to be a Coniurer, and the proces beeing serued vpon him to appeare in the Parishe Churche of Saincte Marie Ouery, at the Court there vsually holden by the sayde Judge, to aunswere vnto suche obiections, as he myghte bee charged wythal, touching his diuellishe trade, and to receyue condygne punishment if he were founde culpable therein: albeit somewhat sickely before, as it must truly be confessed, neuertheless chosing rather to come than to vse any excuse of absence, he

he fayled not at his appoynted daye to appeare, shewing him selfe ready in euery respect to cleare him selfe of all suche matters as should or might in any wise be obiected against him, saying, that he had gret wrong to be troubled for any suche false surmyse, Wherevpon comming to a Proctor of the Arches, & mynding to retaine hym to bee of his counsell touchyng the defence of the obiections layde against him, being refused by the said Proctor, & with his fee in his hande, the Iudge comming into the Churche, he sanke downe sodeynly amongst them starke deade, not hauing space or grace to saye once, the Lord haue mercie vpon me: to the great amaze of all the standers by. The Iudge seeing what had chaunced, and that by no meanes his lyfe coulde be recouered, he commaunded that he shoulde be serched, to the intent that if he had

money or other chardge about him, it might not bee embeselled, but restored to his poore wife, beeing there present, lamenting hir late husbande in moste pitifull sorte, whiche done there were found about him certain diuelishe and wicked bookes of conturation, a peece of tinne with a picture engraued, & a lettle blacke sticke like vnto Jette, aboute two inches long, with other toies, instrumentes no doubt of his diuelish arte.

Wherfore let this iust & sodain executiō of gods iudgement, be a terror vnto those, that setting apart ꝑ clemēcy & great mercy of our heauenly father, haue practised this or the like wicked trade, & let al other that are infected with any notable crime, as no doubte none of vs can excuse our selues, take example by thys deade carkas, whose manner of lyfe as it was abhominable, and odyous in

the

the sighte of god, so the order of hys death no lesse fearful, and terrible in the sight of men. I say after so many warnynges, let vs not be senslesse as bruite beastes, neither lette vs deferre our repentaunce vntill to morrow, least at midnight, or at the daunyng of the day our time be shortened, whereby to late, wee are to call for repentaunce: but while we haue time and space, let vs call for mercy, that we may assure our selues of his comfortable promisse, which is, that at what tyme soeuer a synner dothe repent him of his sinnes frō the bottome of his harte, I will put all his wickednes out of my remembrance, and so glorifying him in this life, we may bee partakers of the heauenlye ioyes, prepared for his elected, whiche God graunte, for his sonne Iesu Christes sake. Amen.